

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. - 26. (canceled)

1 27. (currently amended) A method of selling personal,
2 non-transferable ~~use rights~~ usage rights of unlimited availability,
3 said method comprising the steps of:

4 (a) electronically offering through a communications
5 network personal nontransferable ~~use~~ usage rights which are execut-
6 able either at ~~use~~ prices that aim at reflecting the marginal costs
7 associated with the execution of executing said ~~use~~ usage rights or
8 under conditions of a competitive supply environment;

C 9 (b) storing in a database a group of consumers records
10 and offering through said network to a sample of said group a price
11 for said ~~use~~ usage rights to be paid by each member of said sample
12 in case of accepting the offer;

13 (c) causing said sample to vote on said offered ~~use~~ usage
14 rights by members of said sample stating their willingness to pay
15 for either accepting or rejecting said offer and collecting results
16 of said vote through said network;

17 (d) through said network determining any pivotal payments
18 from any pivotal member of said voting sample whose stated willing-
19 ness to pay for a certain outcome alone was sufficient to swing the
20 outcome from one and outcome undesirable to him or her, said
21 pivotal payment comprising a margin between all pro and contra

22 votes while either in- including or excluding the vote of the a
23 said pivotal voter member under consideration;

24 (e) through said network accepting or rejecting offers of
25 said use usage rights for all members of said voting sample accord-
26 ing to the result of the vote; and

27 (f) through said network correspondingly applying the
28 offered price for the use usage rights to the whole said group in
29 the case of an approving vote of the sample, but taking the sam-
30 ple's a revealed willingness to pay for said use usage rights by
31 the sample as a basis for the price to be paid by the remaining
32 members of the group in the case of a rejecting vote of the sample
33 while excluding same said voting sample from the payment for said
34 use usage right rights.

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1 28. (currently amended) The method defined in claim 27
2 wherein said use prices at which said usage rights are executable
3 are is zero or negative in case marginal the costs associated with
4 the execution of said usage rights do not justify the expense of
5 collecting proceeds or the in case a supplier wants to promote the
6 use of his or her good goods being covered by said usage rights.

1 29. (currently amended) The method defined in claim 27,
2 further storing additional groups of consumers records in the
3 database in order to allow segregation of consumers into homoge-
4 neous groups in respect to the members' supposed marginal willing-
5 ness to pay for said use usage rights, the members' ability to pay,

6 and/or the members' supposed pattern of interest in said ~~use usage~~
7 rights.

1 30. (currently amended) The method defined in claim 27
2 wherein, after ~~the a said sample revealing a willingness to pay for~~
3 ~~said usage rights voting process,~~ the prices for said ~~use usage~~
4 rights are offered to the suppliers ~~of the goods covered by said~~
5 ~~usage rights, said suppliers~~ who then decide ~~deciding~~ whether or
6 not to accept.

1 C1 31. (currently amended) The method defined in claim 27
2 wherein said sample's revealed willingness to pay for said ~~use~~
3 ~~usage rights~~ is taken as a basis for the price to be paid by the
4 remaining members of the group, irrespective of whether or not said
5 voting sample approved the purchase of said ~~use usage rights~~ at the
6 price voted upon.

1 32. (currently amended) The method defined in claim 27
2 wherein, in case of a rejection of the offered ~~use usage rights~~,
3 the members of said voting sample are being held not to employ any
4 alternative means of gaining said ~~use usage rights~~ for the duration
5 of the rejected ~~use usage rights~~'s validity.
